

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00

FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 H-02 SP-02 DIWY-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 /096 W

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O 151938Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6819

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MONTREAL 1665

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJ: ICAO: ELECTION PRESIDENT/COUNCIL

1. FOLLOWING IS EFFORT TO REPORT AND PUT IN PERSPECTIVE MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS OVER PAST FEW MONTHS WHICH HAVE NOW BECOME SIGNIFICANT IN LIGHT OF SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS. USREP HAS INCLUDED MATERIAL THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL IN ANALYZING THESE DEVELOPMENTS AND DERIVING A PROPER ROLE FOR THE US IN CONNECTION WITH ELECTION OF A NEW PRESIDENT/COUNCIL (AND POSSIBLY SYG). SOME WERE REPORTED EARLIER. OTHERS STANDING ALONE WERE NOT CONSIDERED SIGNIFICANT AT THE TIME.

2. SHORTLY AFTER RECEIPT OF BINAHI RESIGNATION, AT SOCIAL FUNCTION JULY AT US RESIDENCE IN FRONT OF FOREIGN SERVICE INSPECTOR, AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ENCOURAGED USREP TO SEEK PRESIDENCY COUNCIL. EFFORTS TO CHANGE SUBJECT AND TREAT MATTER LIGHTLY WERE INEFFECTIVE AND AUSTRALIAN REP PROCEEDED WITH A FAIRLY SERIOUS ONE-SIDED DISCUSSION WHICH CLEARLY INDICATED THAT SUBJECT HAD BEEN CONSIDERED BY GROUP OF COUNCIL MEMBERS. HE SAID THAT "IF WE WANTED IT, WE COULD HAVE IT," AND INDICATED THAT ENTIRE EUROPEAN BLOC AND AFFILIATED COUNTRIES WOULD BE FOR USREP. SHORTLY BEFORE DEPARTING MONTREAL MONTH LATER, AUSTRALIAN REP REITERATED AND ENCOURAGED USREP TO THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT  
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POSSIBILITY. (AS REPORTED SEPTTEL AUSTRALIAN REP DOCUMENTED

POSSIBILITY IN HIS FILES.)

3. AT APPROXIMATELY SAME TIME, SENEGAL COUNCIL REP BROACHED SUBJECT OF PRESIDENCY WITH USREP INDICATING THAT IT WAS "INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR AND VERY TIMELY FOR A WOMAN COUNCIL PRESIDENT." AT THE TIME USREP CONSIDERED THIS IN VERY LIGHT VEIN. RECENTLY, HOWEVER, SENEGAL REP INITIATED DISCUSSION AGAIN WITH USREP IN VERY SERIOUS PLEA. HE INDICATED FRANKLY THAT SEVERAL LDCS PREFERRED THAT KOTAITE OF LEBANON REMAIN IN SYG POSITION RATHER THAN MOVE UP TO PRESIDENCY. WITH ALMOST NO COMMENT FROM USREP, SENEGAL REP ENGAGED IN FAIRLY THOROUGH AND POSITIVE PRESENTATION OF THE IDEA. (USREP KNOWS THAT SENEGAL WAS ONE OF THOSE WHO VISITED SYG RECENTLY TO TRY DISSUADE HIM FROM SEEKING PRESIDENCY.)

4. LEBANON REP APPROACHED US, UK, FRANCE, USSR ON BEHALF KOTAITE BEFORE JUNE RECESS SAYING IF THERE WERE ANY OBJECTION OR RESERVATION ON PART OF ANY ONE OF THESE FOUR MAJOR AVIATION STATES, LEBANON WOULD NOT PURSUE KOTAITE'S CANDIDACY FOR PRESIDENT. THERE WERE NO RESPONSES.

5. THE SUBJECT OF THE PRESIDENCY WAS UPPERMOST IN COUNCIL MINDS DURING THE VANCOUVER SYMPOSIUM AND AIR SHOW (AUGUST) BUT GROUP SEEMED RECONCILED TO IDEA OF KOTAITE'S MOVING UP TO PRESIDENCY WITHOUT OPPOSITION. FEEBLE EFFORT WAS MADE TO COORDINATE BEHIND AVM RUSSELL (UK) AS SYG CANDIDATE. IN VANCOUVER SYG KOTAITE TOLD USREP HE HAD BEEN LEBANON DURING SUMMER AS EXPECTED WHERE HE MET WITH PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER TRANSPORT IN CONNECTION WITH HIS GOVERNMENT'S SPONSORSHIP HIS CANDIDATURE FOR PRESIDENT AND HIS GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED HIS CANDIDACY.

6. LEBANON REP HAD TOLD USREP THAT DURING SUMMER LEBANON WOULD CONTACT OTHER ARAB CAPITALS TO BE SURE THERE WAS NO OBJECTION TO KOTAITE FROM WITHIN ARAB BLOC AND NO COMPETING CANDIDATES. (HOSTILITIES IN LEBANON HAVE MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE LEBANESE REP TO RETURN TO ICAO MONTREAL TO DATE.) WE DO KNOW THAT MOROCCO WAS NOT CONTACTED AND MOROCCAN REP SAYS OTHERS WERE NOT.

7. MID-SEPTEMBER MOROCCAN REP ASKED TO CALL ON USREP RE SUBJECT PRESIDENCY. IN ONE HOUR DISSERTATION HE SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT CONFIDENTIAL

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WOULD NOT FAVOR KOTAITE CANDIDACY, HAD NOT BEEN CONSULTED ABOUT IT, WOULD PREFER LIKE MANY OTHERS THAT KOTAITE REMAIN SYG. HE HAD ANALYZED POTENTIAL FOR PRESIDENCY WITHIN COUNCIL AND ENCOURAGED USREP TO SEEK PRESIDENCY. HE SAID THAT 17 LDC COUNCIL REPS WERE MEETING THAT EVENING OUTSIDE THE BUILDING TO ARRANGE DEMARCHE TO KOTAITE, APPEALING TO HIM NOT TO STAND FOR PRESIDENCY BUT TO REMAIN SYG. MOROCCO SAID THAT IF USREP WOULD BE NOMINATED HE PLEDGED HIS PERSONAL SUPPORT AND THEREUPON COMMITTED HIS

GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT. FOLLOWING DAY HE REPORTED ON MEETING INDICATING THAT NUMBERS HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLY LESS (APPARENTLY AFRICANS, LATIN AMERICANS, SEASIANS AND MOROCCO, 10 OR 12). HE SAID THEY TALKED DIFFERENTLY IN A GROUP THAN INDIVIDUALLY AND COULD NOT AGREE ON MUCH EXCEPT THAT LATIN AMERICANS INTENDED TO PUT KOTAITE IN THE PRESIDENCY (UNDOUBTEDLY STRONG BINAGHI INFLUENCE) AND THEY AGREED TO PUT A THIRD-WORLD CANDIDATE INTO SYGSHIP. HE REITERATED IMPORTANCE OF TALKING KOTAITE OUT OF FILING, AND SAID US SHOULD BE PREPARED "DROP A PAPER" WITH CANDIDACY IMMEDIATELY IF THAT HAPPENED.

8. NAMES DISCUSSED IN ABOVE MEETING AS POSSIBLE CANDIDATES SYG WERE ACUNA/MEXICO, DIALLO/FORMER REP SENEGAL, OLANIYAN/NIGERIA, BEDARD/CANADA, AND KARNO BARKAH/INDONESIA. EVEN LATIN AMERICANS WILL NOT SUPPORT ACUNA. DIALLO IS GONE AND HAS PERSONAL PLANS ELSEWHERE. OLANIYAN MADE "PERSONAL" DECISION AGAINST CANDIDACY AS REPORTED SEPTTEL. BEDARD (FRENCH-CANADIAN CULTURAL AFFAIRS OFFICER) HAS BEEN MANIPULATING HIS OWN CANDIDACY FOR PRESIDENCY AND SYG BUT WOULD ONLY GET SUFFICIENT VOTES IN CASE OF FLUKE. KARNO BARKAH WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE THE NEXT SYG.

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FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 H-02 SP-02 DIWY-01 SSO-00

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FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6820

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MONTREAL 1665

9. VIVIAN (UK), DIRECTOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BUREAU, ASKED TO SEE USREP RE SYG VACANCY. SAID HE HEARD THAT LDCS WERE CONSIDERING SUCH NAMES AS ACUNA, DIALLO, OLANIYAN, BARKAH AND BEDARD. AFTER INCREDIBLE EXPLETIVE, VIVIAN SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT SEEK

SYGSHIP, WOULD NOT WANT IT AND PREFERRED TO REMAIN WITH HIS \$30 MILLION A YEAR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BUT IF THIS WAS THE CALIBRE OF INDIVIDUAL BEING CONSIDERED, HE ASKED THAT WE ONLY "SAY THE WORD" AND HE WOULD SET THINGS IN MOTION TO HAVE HIS GOVERNMENT NOMINATE HIM. FYI: HE IS ONLY ICAO BUREAU DIRECTOR DESERVING CONSIDERATION. ABLE, AGGRESSIVE, TA ZEALOT WHO HAS TRIPLED UNDP FUNDING IN THREE YEARS. REDUCED MANAGEMENT COSTS FROM 17 O/O TO 11 O/O. HE IS CLOSE TO KOTAITE FROM BEIRUT ASSIGNMENT, MARRIED TO LEBANESE. DURING VISIT HE WAS CRITICAL OF KOTAITE SAYING HE WOULDN'T BE BAD PRESIDENT BUT "WOULD LOOK AFTER HIMSELF FIRST," THUS DIFFERING FROM BINAGHI. VIVIAN ENCOURAGED US CANDIDATURES. USREP HAS REASON TO THINK UKREP IS COORDINATING CLOSELY WITH VIVIAN AND WHEN CHIPS ARE DOWN AND UNLESS A SURE ALTERNATIVE IS AVAILABLE FOR PRESIDENCY, THEY MAY GO WITH KOTAITE AND RUN VIVIAN FOR SYG. IN OPINION USREP, VIVIAN EXCELLENT MAN, BUT UK INFLUENCE IN SECRETARIAT ALREADY OVERWHELMING AND A KOTAITE-VIVIAN TEAM WOULD "STEAMROLL" US INTERESTS IN CASE OF MAJOR CONFRONTATION (LIKE MLS?) END FYI

10. THE NEW ARGENTINE REP ASKED TO SEE USREP ON SUBJECT ELECTIONS.  
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HE STARTED FROM ASSUMPTION THAT KOTAITE WOULD BE IN PRESIDENCY BUT EXPRESSED GREAT CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE CANDIDATES FOR SYGSHIP. HE APPEALED FOR A US CANDIDATE, MENTIONING THAT TIMING WAS OF ESSENCE AND WE SHOULD LET THEM KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

11. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH UKREP DURING IO VISIT, ANALYSIS INDICATED THAT THERE WAS LITTLE THAT COULD BE DONE AT THIS LATE DATE TO STOP KOTAITE BUT WHEN PUSHED UK SAID THAT HE HIMSELF OR USREP WOULD BE THE ONLY POSSIBILITY AND HE THOUGHT USREP WOULD GET MORE VOTES.

12. DURING SAME VISIT, PRESIDENT/COUNCIL BINAGHI INDICATED WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR ANY US CANDIDACY. ON THIS AND ANOTHER OCCASION HE REITERATED THAT USSR SAID IT WOULD NOT HAVE CANDIDATE AND HE IMPLIED THAT THIS MIGHT BE TACIT AGREEMENT AMONG MAJOR POLITICAL ENTITIES. (SUBSEQUENT TALKS WITH USSR INDICATE NOT NECESSARILY SO.) WE LEARNED THAT BINAGHI HAD GONE STRAIGHT TO UKREP AFTER US VISIT, ADVISING HIM THAT EGYPTIAN NOMINATION LETTER FOR KOTAITE HAD BEEN HAND-CARRIED BY EGYPTIAN DEL TO DIP CONF. UKREP APPRISED US OF THIS BUT ASKED CONFIDENCE. WHILE CHECKING WITH EGYPTIAN ON STATUS JERUSALEM AIRPORT PAPER, USREP GAVE HIM OPPORTUNITY TO BRING UP SUBJECT PRESIDENCY. EGYPT REP ADVISED USREP THAT KOTAITE NOMINATION HAD BEEN HANDED TO BINAGHI DURING DIP CONF. AGAIN ASSUMING KOTAITE WOULD BE PRESIDENT, EGYPT REP TURNED TO DISCUSSION SYG VACANCY AND ASKED IF THERE WAS ANY POSSIBILITY THAT USREP WOULD BE INTERESTED SAYING THERE WAS "MUCH SUPPORT" FOR THIS. USREP EXPRESSED SURPRISE, THANKED HIM AND INDICATED "TOO EARLY." HE URGED THAT CANDIDACY BE THOROUGHLY

CONSIDERED AND FILED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE SO THAT INSTRUCTIONS  
COULD BE OBTAINED BY ALL COUNTRIES.

13. AT CLOSE DIP CONF USREP GAVE LARGE DINNER FOR AFRICAN/ARAB  
VISITORS. DURING EVENING HEAD OF EGYPT DELEGATION TO DIP CONF  
QUESTIONED USREP AT SOME LENGTH ABOUT EFFICIENCY OF  
SECRETARIAT AND MANAGEMENT OF ICAO GENERALLY. USREP GAVE USUAL  
"SPIEL" ABOUT "BEST OF THE UN TECHNICAL AGENCIES," BUDGET  
FIGURES, AND COMPLIMENTED SYG. AT END EVENING, THREE MEMBERS  
EGYPT DELEGATION TOOK USREP ASIDE FOR FURTHER SERIOUS DISCUSSION.  
ASKED HOW KOTAITE WAS DOING. USREP COMPLIMENTED AND INDICATED  
MANY WOULD BE DISAPPOINTED IF HE WERE NO LONGER SYG. HEAD  
DELEGATION SAID "WE THINK YOU WOULD BE EXCELLENT CANDIDATE  
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PRESIDENT". USREP MADE LIGHT TALK BUT HE PERSISTED BECAUSE "IT  
IS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR," "THERE HAS NEVER BEEN WOMAN HEAD  
OF AGENCY," "YOUR QUALIFICATIONS," ETC. USREP EXPRESSED  
SURPRISE AND THANKS. FYI: THIS WAS NOT PUT-ON. EITHER THEY  
WANTED TO FIND OUT (A) IF  
US AWARE EGYPT/KOTAITE LETTER; OR (B) WHETHER US CONSIDERING ANY  
CANDIDACIES; OR (C) IN OPINION UK REPEAT UKREP THEY ARE CONSIDERING  
ALL POSSIBILITIES IN VIEW SPLIT IN ARAB BLOC, LEBANON SITUATION,  
MID-EAST SITUATION, ETC. EGYPT COUNCIL REP WAS NOT PRESENT.  
MAN SPEAKING WAS ON STAFF OF FORMER EGYPT REP (NOW DIP MIN CAIRO)  
WHO WAS VERY CLOSE TO USREP.

14. USREP HAD NOT ENDEAVOURED REPORT COMPARATIVELY MINOR  
OVERTURES/SOCIAL ENCOUNTERS ETC. NOR HAVE WE ENDEAVOURED REPORT  
LONG HOURS INFORMAL BRAINSTORMING DISCUSSIONS, RUMORS,  
ALTERNATIVES, POSSIBILITIES, ETC. FOR THREE MONTHS THIRTY IN-  
RESIDENCE COUNCIL MEMBERS HAVE BEEN STEEPED IN SUBJECT. ANTICI-  
PATION THAT THERE WOULD BE A CHOICE OF CANDIDATES HAS FADED AND  
MOST MEMBERS ARE RECONCILED/HAVE CONTACTED GOVERNMENTS BASED  
ON KOTAITE FAIT ACCOMPLI, AND DIRT OF SYG CANDIDACIES.  
HARPER

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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